

ABSTRACT

WA-I-362

19th Century

High Germany

Williamsport Vicinity

private

This farm complex has been known locally as "High Germany." Situated on a neck of land almost surrounded by the Conococheague Creek is a two story three bay weatherboarded house and a large frame bank barn. The age of the structures cannot be determined without closer examination.

## MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

WA-I-362  
District 2  
Map 48  
Parcel 51  
MAGI # 2205705935  
1396

## INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

AND/OR COMMON

High Germany

**2 LOCATION**

STREET &amp; NUMBER

West of the Conococheague Creek and Kemp's Mill Road

CITY, TOWN

☒ VICINITY OF Williamsport

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

6

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Washington

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

## CATEGORY

☐ DISTRICT  
☒ BUILDING(S)  
☐ STRUCTURE  
☐ SITE  
☐ OBJECT

## OWNERSHIP

☐ PUBLIC  
☒ PRIVATE  
☐ BOTH  
**PUBLIC ACQUISITION**  
☐ IN PROCESS  
☐ BEING CONSIDERED

## STATUS

☐ OCCUPIED  
☒ UNOCCUPIED  
☐ WORK IN PROGRESS  
**ACCESSIBLE**  
☐ YES: RESTRICTED  
☐ YES: UNRESTRICTED  
☐ NO

## PRESENT USE

☒ AGRICULTURE  
☐ COMMERCIAL  
☐ EDUCATIONAL  
☐ ENTERTAINMENT  
☐ GOVERNMENT  
☐ INDUSTRIAL  
☐ MILITARY  
☐ MUSEUM  
☐ PARK  
☐ PRIVATE RESIDENCE  
☐ RELIGIOUS  
☐ SCIENTIFIC  
☐ TRANSPORTATION  
☐ OTHER**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Wilbur E. Rhoton et al

Telephone #:

STREET &amp; NUMBER

Route # 2, Box 70

CITY, TOWN

Hagerstown

VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code  
Maryland 21740**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE,

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Washington County Court House

Liber #: 623

Folio #: 802

STREET &amp; NUMBER

West Washington Street

CITY, TOWN

Hagerstown

STATE

Maryland 21740

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

DATE

☐ FEDERAL ☐ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

**7 DESCRIPTION**

WA-I-362

**CONDITION**

☐ EXCELLENT  
☐ GOOD  
☐ FAIR

☐ DETERIORATED  
☒ RUINS  
☐ UNEXPOSED

**CHECK ONE**

☐ UNALTERED  
☒ ALTERED

**CHECK ONE**

☒ ORIGINAL SITE  
☐ MOVED      DATE \_\_\_\_\_

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DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

This farm known locally as "High Germany" is located on a rise of ground in a curve of the Conococheague Creek at a point where the creek doubles back upon itself. The property is surrounded by water except for a narrow neck of land across which runs a high, steep ridge. The only access to the buildings appears to be a fording along Kemp's Mill Road. A small suspension bridge spanned the creek here until 1972. The property is improved with a house and barn both of which face east but are situated some distance apart. The house is vacant but the barn appears to be in use for agricultural purposes. Because of the problem with accessibility, the property was viewed only from a great distance.

The house is a two story three bay wooden structure, possibly of log construction sheathed with siding. Extending to the rear or west is a one story, two bay section which may also be of log construction. The wing has a pair of gable roofed dormers on the north slope of its roof. Evidence of a porch which extended across the front of the house remains. The entrance appears to have been centered in the front elevation. The barn is a large frame structure which stands some distance behind the house. The property contains 143 acres.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

PERIOD		AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)	
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION			

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This farm complex has been known locally as "High Germany." Situated on a neck of land almost surrounded by the Conococheague Creek is a two story three bay weatherboarded house and a large frame bank barn. The age of the structures cannot be determined without a closer examination.

This property is unusual in that access to it is limited because of the creek. Apparently, at one time the main means of getting to the building was a fording south of Kemp's Mill. According to early deeds for the farm the steep ridge behind the buildings was called High Germany. High Germany a tract containing 565 acres, was patented on October 5, 1795 to Samuel Ringgold, a wealthy general who owned large amounts of land in Washington County. (Land Patents Vol. 7, page 217). Ringgold did not live on this property, however. There apparently was no clear record of when or to whom the land passed from Samuel Ringgold's ownership.

The present buildings could date from the 19th century. The great distance between the house and barn is unusual and may suggest that there are two generations of structures on the property. In general houses and barns are situated more closely together with there being a direct relationship between the two.

# 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Washington County Land Records.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

## 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 143 acres

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE COUNTY

STATE COUNTY

## 11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Paula Stoner Dickey, Consultant

ORGANIZATION

Washington County Historical Sites Survey

DATE

October 1977

STREET & NUMBER

County Office Building, 33 West Washington Street

TELEPHONE

791-3065

CITY OR TOWN

Hagerstown

STATE

Maryland 21740

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

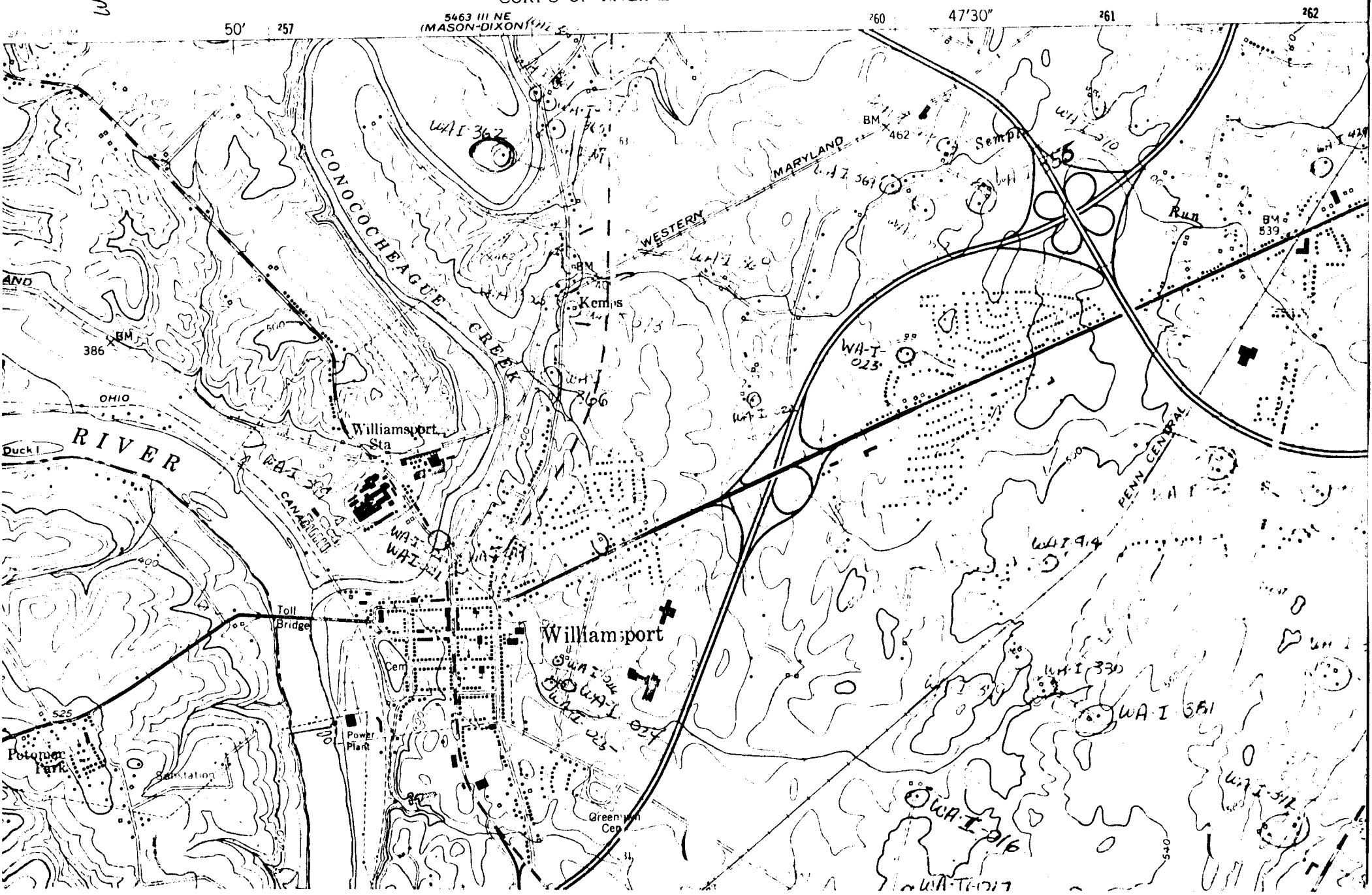
RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust  
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
(301) 267-1438

WA-I-362

Williamport

WV  
7

UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY  
CORPS OF ENGINEERS





W-3-362

Pl 1 1975

High Germany

PAULA STONER DICKEY  
CONSULTANT, WASHINGTON CO.  
HISTORICAL SITES SURVEY





*High Germany*

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CONSULTANT, WASHINGTON CO  
HISTORICAL SITES SURVEY



11/15/1915  
High Germany

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CONSULTANT, WASHINGTON CO  
HISTORICAL SITES SURVEY